

**WE CLAIM AS OUR INVENTION:**

1. A positioning device for a diagnostic imaging system, comprising:  
a patient support having a table adapted to receive a patient thereon which is  
movable between a preparation position, outside of said diagnostic  
imaging system, to an interior position within said diagnostic imaging  
system;  
a camera having a field of view which includes at least a portion of said patient  
bed in said preparation position;  
said patient bed having a position acquisition device which generates a signal  
indicating a position of said table;  
a picture screen connected to said camera for displaying an image in said field  
of view of said camera;  
a region selection device which interacts with said picture screen to designate  
a desired examination region in the image on the picture screen; and  
a computer connected to said picture screen and to said patient bed, and  
receiving said signal from said position acquisition device, for  
automatically moving said table and said patient to a position within said  
diagnostic imaging system needed for obtaining an image of said  
examination region.
2. A positioning device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said region selection  
device is a computer mouse.

3. A positioning device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said picture screen is a touch screen forming said region selection device.

4. A positioning device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said region selection device also enters at least one of a scan length and a scan region associated with said examination region via said picture screen.

5. A positioning device as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a memory accessible by said computer wherein the position of said table needed for obtaining said image of said examination region is stored.

6. A positioning device as claimed in claim 1 further comprising an input unit allowing entry of image planes in advance of obtaining said image of said examination region.

7. A positioning device as claimed in claim 1 comprising at least one further camera having a field of view which is also displayable on said picture screen to allow selection of a region having at least two dimensions as said examination region.